

FISCAL NOTE

HB 727 - SB 887

April 3, 2003

SUMMARY OF BILL: Enacts the *Fire Department Recognition Act*, which:

- Provides that no public or private entity may operate a fire department in the State of Tennessee unless it has been recognized to do so by the State Fire Marshal and has been approved by the local elected governing body of the geographical territory covered by the fire department.
- Establishes standards that entities must meet in order to be recognized as a fire department.
- Provides that a processing fee of \$50 shall accompany an application for recognition.
- Provides that a certificate of recognition shall be valid for 3 years.
- Provides that a violation of the provisions of this bill is punishable as a Class C misdemeanor.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Revenues - \$34,050 Triennially

**Increase State Expenditures - \$190,000 Recurring
\$38,000 One-Time**

Increase Local Govt. Revenues - Not Significant

Increase Local Govt. Expenditures - Not Significant

Estimate assumes:

- approximately 681 fire departments will become recognized and pay fees under the provisions of this bill.
- the salary and benefits, office furniture and equipment and operational expenses for 4 positions to implement and monitor the provisions of this bill.
- local impact depends upon the number of persons convicted of this offense and the resulting increased cost to local governments to confine such persons versus the increased revenues to local governments from fines levied and collected under the provisions of this bill. Any increase in expenditures as a result of local government fire departments having to submit a fee accompanying their application for recognition is estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director